

as defined in Section 12 of this Act. A Planning Board created under the authority of this Act shall be designated as the "Williamston Planning Board", hereinafter referred to as the Planning Board. The Planning Board, composed of five members who are residents of the Town of Williamston and who hold no elected office with the town at the time of their appointment, shall be appointed by the board of commissioners. In lieu of appointing residents of the Town of Williamston as members of the Planning Board, the board of commissioners at their discretion may appoint one or more persons as members who are residents of the planning area as defined in this Act, but who reside outside the corporate limits of the Town of Williamston.

Members of the Planning Board shall be appointed for three-year terms; provided that the members first appointed shall serve for terms as follows: two members shall be appointed to serve for a term of three years and two members shall be appointed to serve for a term of two years and one member shall be appointed to serve for a term of one year. Thereafter, all members of the Planning Board shall be appointed to serve for three-year terms. The terms of the members first appointed shall begin at the time of the first meeting of the Planning Board after their appointment. Any member shall be eligible for reappointment. A vacancy occurring in the membership of the Planning Board shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as set forth herein for other appointments.

Members of the Planning Board shall serve without compensation provided, board members may be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses outside the Williamston Planning Area while engaged in the work of the Planning Board.

Sec. 2. Organization of Planning Board. As soon as practical after their appointment and at the time and place designated by the board of commissioners, the members of the Planning Board first appointed in accordance with Section 1 of this Act shall meet and elect from among its members a chairman, vice chairman and a secretary. The Planning Board shall adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business not inconsistent with this Act as it may deem necessary. After holding its first organizational meeting, the Planning Board shall meet regularly but not less than once every sixty days at such time and place as the Planning Board may determine. Special meetings of the Planning Board may be called by the chairman, and all members shall be notified in writing at least five days in advance of any such special meeting. All meetings of the Planning Board shall be open to the public, and a record of the proceedings of all meetings shall be kept in a book provided for that purpose.

Sec. 3. Planning Board's Fiscal Affairs. Funds for the work of the Planning Board shall be appropriated in the annual budget of the Town of Williamston in amounts that the board of commissioners shall from time to time deem appropriate. The Planning Board may accept any funds or grants-in-aid made available by the United States Government or its agencies, the State of North Carolina and its agencies, or from any other public or private source. The Planning Board shall not purchase any supplies, materials or equipment, enter into any contract for service or incur